

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES-PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application Of:

ARNOLD C. BILSTAD, BRADLEY H.

BUCHANAN, ALAN W. MARTTILA, and

ARCHIE WOODWORTH

Application No. 09/2/270,580

Filed: October 4, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

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Comparison of the compa

MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE

Group Art Unit: 1744

Examiner: Unassigned

FEB 1 3 2002

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

STERILE FIELD

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449, "Information Disclosure Statement." The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application No. 09/294,964, filed April 20, 1999. The present application relies upon U.S. Application No. 09/294,964 for a filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, copies of patents, publications, or other information previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the prior application are not provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of the enclosed references in connection with the examination of this application. It is requested that the listed references be made of record and included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application.

Information Disclosure Statement U.S. Application No. 09/270,580 Page 2

Since this Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Official Action on the merits, no fee is necessary. Please charge any fee associated with this Communication to our Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 10, 2002

Robert W. Diehl, Reg. No. 35,118

Wallenstein & Wagner, Ltd.

311 S. Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6622

(312) 554-3300

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 10, 2002.

Sarah J. Goodnight

(138286.1)

Application Number Docket Number (Option 1417Y P 649 (DDR-5455 DIV) 09/970,580 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT COPY OF PAPERS (Use several sheets if necessary) ORIGINALLY FILED Applicant(s) Arnold C. Bilstad, et al. Filing Date **Group Art Unit** 1744 October 4, 2001 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** FILING DATE *EXAMINER **CLASS SUBCLASS** NAME DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE INITIAL REF APPROPRIATE 02/20/2001 Stirling, et al. * 6,191,424 Wakalopulos, et al. 10/31/2000 * 6,140,657 02/08/2000 Fowles, et al. * 6,022,339 * 5,802,689 09/08/1998 Sano 07/08/1997 Caputo, et al. * 5,645,796 * 5,637,953 06/10/1997 Wakalopulos 03/18/1997 Wakalopulos * 5,612,588 Wakalopulos * 5,557,163 09/17/1996 Minshall, et al. * 5,496,302 03/05/1996 * 5,496,302 03/05/1996 Minshall, et al. 05/09/1995 Wakalopulos * 5,414,267 05/09/1995 Wakalopulos * 5,414,267 10/04/1994 Marrucchi * 5,352,210 06/01/1993 Danilychev, et al. * 5,215,636 04/23/1991 Minshall, et al. * 5,009,654 * 4,910,435 03/20/1990 Wakalopulos 05/13/1986 Igari, et al. * 4,588,402 06/04/1985 Benin, et al. * 4,521,263 * 4,507,119 03/26/1985 Spencer Weikert * 4,265,279 05/05/1981 Greff, et al. * 4,242,310 12/30/1980 * 4,209,013 06/24/1980 Alexander, et al. * 4,157,723 06/12/1979 Granzow, et al. 07/06/1976 Bishop * 3,968,195 05/07/1974 Berry

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REF						YES	NO
	* FR 2 567 406 - A1	17.01.1986	France				
	• WO 85/00979	14.03.1985	PCT				

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	Docket Number (Optio Application Number 1417Y P 649 (DDR-5455 DIV) 09/970,580			
(Use several sheets if necessary)	Applicant(s) Amold C. Bilstad, et al. COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED			
FEB 0 8 2002	Filing Date October 4, 2001	Group Art Unit		
TRADEMA				

			PUBLICATION		67.486		Translation	
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO
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		* FR 2 509 689	17.07.1981	France				
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FORM PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449)

not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*A copy of the document listed was either previously submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in an Information Disclosure Statement or cited by an Examiner in an Office Action for U.S. Application No. 09/294,964, filed April 20, 1999. The present application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/294,964 filed April 20, 1999, Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(d), a copy of this document is not required and therefore not enclosed.

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and

(138232.1)

